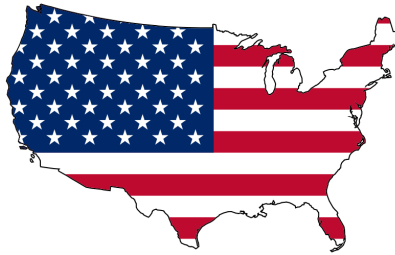


United States Embassy Macedonia

Presents Newsletter *C O L L A G E*



Global articles for your interest
Issue 11
June 4 - June 18, 2010

Contents:

1. Obama Vows to Fight Oil Spill “With Everything We’ve Got”

President Obama warns Americans that they will be dealing with damage from the Gulf of Mexico oil spill for years. He says his administration will hold BP accountable and do whatever is necessary to help the region recover. He also urges an accelerated transition to clean energy. ...

2. Reform Must Ensure Stability of Financial System

Focusing supervision too narrowly on the safety and soundness of individual financial institutions can blind regulators to emerging threats to financial stability that cut across many companies or markets, Federal Reserve Chairman Ben Bernanke says. ...

3. U.S.-Russia Relations Under the Obama Administration

Assistant Secretary Gordon (June 16): "And so the idea behind the reset was a simple one: The United States and Russia have significant common interests and where the United States and Russia have common interests, we should cooperate." ...

4. Brave Individuals Cast a Spotlight on Human Trafficking

Nine activists who work to stop trafficking in persons were honored as heroes at a special event June 14 at the U.S. Department of State. "Human trafficking crosses cultures and continents," Secretary Clinton said at the ceremony. "All of us have a responsibility to bring this practice to an end." ...

5. Clinton Remarks to Students from Youth Exchange and Study Program

U.S. Secretary of State Hillary Rodham Clinton addresses students from the Kennedy-Lugar Youth Exchange and Study Program and thanks them for participating in the program. ...

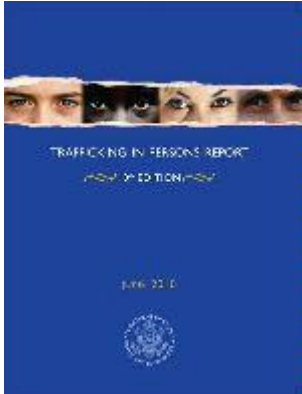
6. Flag Day: The Birthday of the Stars and Stripes

In the United States, Flag Day is June 14, the anniversary of the adoption of the American flag in 1777 by the Continental Congress. The first flag consisted of 13 stars and 13 alternating red and white stripes, representing the 13 original Colonies. There are now 50 stars representing 50 states. ...

In case you missed it:

U.S. Embassy Macedonia [Facebook](#) page

U.S. Embassy Macedonia [Youtube channel](#) 



*Trafficking in Persons Report
2010 cover. - State Dept
Images*

2010 Trafficking in Persons Report Released

June 14, 2010

Secretary Clinton (June 14, 2010): "The 10th annual Trafficking in Persons Report outlines the continuing challenges across the globe, including in the United States. The Report, for the first time, includes a ranking of the United States based on the same standards to which we hold other countries. The United States takes its first-ever ranking not as a reprieve but as a responsibility to strengthen global efforts against modern slavery, including those within America. This human rights abuse is universal, and no one should claim immunity from its reach or from the responsibility to confront it." [Full Text](#) / [Report](#).

- Republic of Macedonia: 2010 Trafficking in Persons

Report...full text.



*Deputy Chief of Mission Thomas J. Navratil talks
to TV Alsat-m reporter. (LP) - U.S. Embassy
Skopje Images*

Deputy Chief of Mission Thomas J. Navratil Discusses His Three Years of Service to the Republic of Macedonia

June 17, 2010

Deputy Chief of the U.S. Mission to Skopje, Thomas J. Navratil, is returning to the U.S. after serving three years in the Republic of Macedonia. He sat down with Ismail Sinani of Open Studio on Alsat-M TV to discuss his general impressions of his stay in Macedonia and the pressing issues facing the country. Navratil touched on the name issue, the ongoing challenges to the country on its path to NATO and EU membership and the implementation of the Ohrid Framework Agreement, with a particular emphasis on the progress that Macedonia has made over the last three years.

To see the interview on Alsat – M website, please [click here](#).



The Director of the Macedonian Philharmonic Maja Canacevic presents U.S. Ambassador and Mrs. Reeker with a painting from Miroslav Masin, one of the leading painters of the new generation of Macedonian artists. (LP)

Ambassador Reeker announces new Cultural Preservation Grant for Stobi Frescoes

June 9, 2010

This Wednesday, June 9, Ambassador Reeker announced a new Ambassador's Fund for Cultural Preservation award for Macedonia. The conservation of the early Christian frescoes from the Episcopal Basilica at Stobi will be supported by a U.S. government grant in the amount of \$72,600. This string of Ambassador's Fund successes is unprecedented in all of Europe, with the Embassy winning nine grants in the past ten years—totaling nearly one million dollars of support from the

American government for preservation of Macedonia's rich cultural heritage. Ambassador Reeker announced the award at a reception in honor of the Macedonian Philharmonic to show the Embassy's great appreciation for their ongoing contribution to high culture and our joint commitment to the performing arts.

- ◆ **See the local media coverage** ([Alfa TV - WMV file, size 13.1MB](#) | [A1 TV - WMV file, size 3.34 MB](#)) **of the reception hosted by Ambassador Reeker in honor of the Macedonian Philharmonic.**
- ◆ **To see more pictures from the event, please** [click here](#).



Ambassador Reeker takes questions from the reporters after meeting with Ombudsman Memeti. (LP)

Ombudsman's Report Presented to Ambassador Reeker

June 7, 2010

As part of the ongoing dialogue between the United States and Macedonia about the important field of human rights, Ambassador Reeker was presented with Ombudsman Ixhet Memeti's Annual Report on June 7. The Ombudsman's office educates citizens of their rights and helps bridge the gap between public administration and citizens, improving relations between the two. Ambassador Reeker expressed the United States would like to see improvement in Macedonia's

judiciary system, stressing the importance of a fully independent judiciary that has the trust of the citizens without the influence of government or political power.

- ◆ **To see the comments of Ambassador Philip T. Reeker to Media after meeting with Ombudsman Memeti, please** [click here](#). | [Recent Comments](#).
- ◆ **To see more pictures from the event, please** [click here](#).

For All Embassy News go to: <http://macedonia.usembassy.gov>

Small Grants information: http://macedonia.usembassy.gov/small_grants_program.html

American Educational Exchange information: <http://macedonia.usembassy.gov/aec.html>

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